

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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S:PTARNOFF
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET POSITION ON CYPRUS PROBLEM

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ORAL STATEMENT LEFT AT DEPARTMENT
MARCH 10 BY SOVIET EMBASSY WITH INDICATION THAT AMBASSADOR
DOBRYNIN WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS CYPRUS ISSUE WITH SECRETARY
PRIOR HIS MOSCOW TRIP:

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BEGIN TEXT: MOSCOW HAS TAKEN NOTICE OF STATEMENTS BY
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NEW AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION REGARD-
ING THE DESIRABILITY TO SETTLE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. WE ALSO
CONSIDER THAT THE NECESSITY TO TAKE MEASURES FOR ITS
EARLIEST SETTLEMENT ARE LONG OVERDUE. THE ABNORMAL
SITUATION PERSISTING IN CYPRUS IS A CONSTANT SOURCE OF
TENSION WHICH CREATES A POTENTIAL THREAT TO PEACE AND

SECURITY IN A BROAD CONTEXT.

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF THE CYPRUS CRISIS THE SOVIET UNION FIRMLY AND CONSISTENTLY STOOD IN FAVOR OF SETTTLING THIS COMPLICATED PROBLEM ON THE BASIS OF RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS, FOR ITS POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT, FAVORED THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS FROM THE ISLAND AND GRANTING THE TWO NATIONAL COMMUNITIES THE POSSIBILITY

TO DECIDE THEMSELVES MATTERS OF INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF THEIR STATE WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. THESE VERY PRINCIPLES FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WERE REFLECTED IN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3212 (XXIX) UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED ON NOVEMBER 1, 1974. WE KNOW THAT BOTH OUR COUNTRIES AS WELL AS ALL THE COUNTRIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE CONFLICT VOTED FOR THAT RESOLUTION THIS RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 13, 1974.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS, EVIDENTLY, AWARE THAT THE MATTER OF CYPRUS WAS MORE THAN ONCE DISCUSSED DURING BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. IN THE JOINT SOVIET-AMERICAN COMMUNIQUE ADOPTED ON NOVEMBER 24, 1974, AS A RESULT OF THE MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CPSU AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE USA BOTH SIDES FIRMLY EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS AND DECLARED THAT THEY WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT IN THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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DIRECTION. THE COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT "A JUST SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION MUST BE BASED ON THE STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS REGARDING CYPRUS."

ON OUR PART WE CONSIDER THAT THE BEST AND MOST RELIABLE WAY OF SETTTLING THE CYPRUS PROBLEM AND ABOVE ALL ITS INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS ON THE BASIS OF THE ABOVE SAID PRINCIPLE WOULD BE TO CONVENE A REPRESENTATIVE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS. NATURALLY, MATTER OF INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF THEIR STATE MUST BE DECIDED ONLY BY THE CYPRIOTS THEMSELVES. AN AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN PRESIDENT MAKARIOS AND DENKTASH AT THEIR RECENT MEETINGS TO RESUME AT THE END OF MARCH INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS HAS BEEN POSITIVELY APPRAISED BY BOTH SIDES, AND IF THESE TALKS PROVE FRUITFUL THEN IT CAN BE ONLY WELCOMED.

WE REGARD POSITIVELY THE READINESS EXPRESSED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AT HIS MEETING WITH THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR ON FEBRUARY 12, TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH THE SOVIET SIDE ON HOW TO HELP EXPEDITE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT CONTACTS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES ON THIS ISSUE AND, MOREOVER, AGREED EFFORTS BY THE USSR AND THE USA WOULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING ON ACHIEVING A JUST SETTLEMENT IN CYPRUS AND ENSURING EFFECTIVELY A STATUS OF INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY OF THAT STATE FOR THE FUTURE WHICH IN ITS TURN WOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARD IMPROVING THE WHOLE SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

AREA. END TEXT.

2. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO RESPOND DIRECTLY TO THE SOVIET ORAL STATEMENT. POSTS SHOULD NOT INITIATE DISCONFIDENTIAL

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CUSSION OF POINTS IN THE STATEMENT. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE REPORTS OF EXPRESSED SOVIET INTEREST IN CYPRUS.

3. THE SECRETARY DID INDICATE TO AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN THAT US WAS PREPARED TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH USSR ON CYPRUS PROBLEM AND IN THIS LIGHT COUNSELOR-DESIGNATE NIMETZ MET WITH SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR IL'IN ON MARCH 4 TO PROVIDE GENERAL REVIEW OF CLIFFORD MISSION. MEMCON HAS BEEN POUCHED TO POSTS.

4. IN NONE OF THESE ENCOUNTERS DID DEPARTMENT ACCEPT SOVIET CONTENTION THAT AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WAS REQUIRED. IN FUTURE MEETINGS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS WE WILL REITERATE OUR SHARED HOPE THAT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN VIENNA AT END OF MARCH WILL PROVE FRUITFUL AND WILL RECALL THAT THESE TALKS ARE TAKING PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTIONS OF UNGA AND SECURITY COUNCIL. WE WILL SUGGEST THAT ALL PARTIES TO INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS BE ENCOURAGED WHENEVER APPROPRIATE TO NEGOTIATE IN SUSTAINED, ENERGETIC AND REASONABLE MANNER UNDER GUIDELINES WORKED OUT BY UNSYG. IF PRESSED WE WILL EXPRESS OUR VIEW THAT AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WOULD NOT BE PRODUCTIVE MEANS TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARDS CYPRUS SETTLEMENT NOR WOULD IT BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH UN RESOLUTIONS.
VANCE

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